

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are in this application and are presented for consideration. By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 2-7. Applicant has also added new claims 8-20.

The title has been objected to because the Office Action states that the title is not descriptive.

Applicant has amended the title as shown above.

Claims 1 and 7 have been objected to as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Applicant has amended claims 1 and 7 paying close attention to the Examiner's remarks. Specifically "they" in line 15 of claim 1 has been amended to refer to the wheels. "They" in lines 21 and 22 has been amended to refer to the switching means. It is Applicant's position that the claims as now amended are clear and satisfy the requirements of the statute.

Claims 1-2 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Dubois et al. (US 4,389,122).

The present invention relates to a chronograph watch movement. The chronograph watch movement comprises a chronograph mechanism having a switching means that switches from a connected state to a disconnected state such that the second wheel of the chronograph train is connected to the mobile element when said switching means is in a connected state. A display means is connected to a second wheel for displaying a time associated with the second wheel. The display means of the second wheel displays a current time that is equivalent to the

measured time so that the display means of the second wheel is superimposed on a measuring time hand when the second wheel of the chronograph train is connected to the mobile element. Applicant has discovered that conventional chronograph movements provide a chronograph minute hand at the center of the movement that is so wide that it blocks the dial in the midday position when it is not in operation. This makes it difficult to read the information given by the other hands that are situated under the wide chronograph minute hand and makes it difficult to read the current time as a significant portion of the dial is blocked. The present invention advantageously solves the problem of having to use wide chronograph second hands that block the dial when the chronograph second hand is not in use. The present invention advantageously makes it easier to read the time as the display means connected to the second wheel displays the equivalent time as the current time, i.e. the display means of the second wheel is superimposed with the current measuring time hand, so that the dial is not blocked. This advantageously makes it easier for a user to read the dial since the display means of the second wheel rotates with the current measuring time hand.

Dubois et al. discloses a clock comprising an electric oscillator. An electric motor is connected to the electric oscillator for the output of a timed movement. Wheelwork means are connected to and driven by the electric motor. A plurality of hands are connected to the wheelwork means for movement to indicate, by their respective positions, increments of time. At least one of the hands are stopped and restarted by a manually operable actuator that is connected to the at least one hand and the wheelwork means through a coupling means. A mechanism is provided for resetting the position of the at least one hand.

Dubois et al. fails to teach and fails to suggest the combination of a switching means arranged such that the switching means switches from a connected state to a disconnected state wherein the switching means connects the second wheel of the chronograph train to a mobile element of a going train element. According to the present invention, a display means connected to the second wheel displays a unit of current time that is equivalent to the measured time. At most, Dubois et al. discloses four hands 5, 7, 9 and 11 wherein at least one of the hands can be reset. However, Dubois et al. is void of any teaching or suggestion of a display means that moves with a hand of current time. In contrast to Dubois et al., the present invention provides a display means connected to the second wheel that rotates with a hand that displays a current unit of time. This advantageously makes it easier to read the time as the display means is superimposed with the current measuring time hand. Compared with the present invention, Dubois et al. only discloses a stoppable second hand 5, a stoppable minute hand 7, a continually running minute hand 9 and a continually running hour hand 11, a stoppable hour hand 13 and a continually running second hand 15. However, Dubois et al. does not disclose that a hand carried by a second wheel that moves with a hand of current time as claimed. Dubois et al. fails to provide any teaching of a second display means that is superimposed with a current measuring time hand. As such, the prior art as a whole takes a different approach and fails to suggest each feature of the claimed combination. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner favorably consider claim 1 as now presented and all claims that depend thereon.

Claims 1-2 and 5-7 have been rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type

double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. US 7,232,254.

Applicant has attached a terminal disclaimer to overcome this rejection.

Applicant has added new claims 8-19. New independent claim 8 provides that the second display means is superimposed with a current measuring time hand when the second chronograph gear is connected to a first gear of a first drive train. New independent claim 15 provides for similar features as new independent claim 8, but in different claim language. New dependent claims 9-14 and 16-19 further clarify the features of the invention. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner favorably consider new claims 8-19.

Favorable action on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted
for Applicant,



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Attached: Terminal Disclaimer

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